(c) whether the same was not used and requirement of cabin was met through outsourcing which cost more than Rs. 100 crore till March, 2005; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) A 1500 T General Purpose (GPM) Hydraulic Press was commissioned in May 2003 for manufacture of various part of LPTA and Stallion vehicle including cabin.

(b) The Total cost of the Press is Rs. 3.55 crore.

(c) and (d) Hydraulic Press in question is beign utilized to its full capacity for manufacture of the components of Stallion and LPTA vehicles. However, the press is not being used for manufacture of cabin. The plan for manufacture of Cabin assembly in-house at Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur could not be pursued since it involved creation of other supplementary facilities with an investment of more than Rs. 75 crore each for LPTA and Stallion vehicles. Therefore such investment for manufacture of cabins at the present volume of production of LPTA & Stallion vehicles was not economically viable. As such, requirement of cabins is being met through collaborators as that is more economical.

Review of Offset Clause in Defence Procurement Procedure 2006

308. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to review the Offset Clause under the Defence Procurement Procedure 2006:

(b) if so, the details of the reasons warranting such a review; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the vendors have expressed reservations to the Offset Clause?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The Offset Clause was incorporated in the Defence Procurement Procedure, 2006 promulgated with effect from 1.9.2006. The procedure is subject to modification on the basis of experience gained during the course of tits implementation. No changes have been made so far in the Offset provisions.

(c) Vendors have not expressed any reservation to the Offset Clause though they have given few suggestions.

DRDO suggestions to depression problems

†309. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Research Development Organisation has given any suggestions for resolving of the problems confronting the soldiers such as depression, difficult working conditions owing to the proxy war;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of units where these reforms have been implemented;

(d) whether the same would be implemented in other units after studying their results; and

(e) by when these reform would be implemented in all the units?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), a laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.